SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Londing Journals Upon Current Topics Compiled Every they for the Evening Telegraph.

THE ROCHEFORT EMEUTE IN PARIS.

From the N. Y. World. The easy suppression of the recent disturbances and prompt restoration of order and quiet without scenes of carnage and horror such as have often been enacted in the streets of Paris, are creditable to the moderation which has, on this occasion, tempered the firmness of the French Government. It was the determination of the authorities to shed no blood, if bloodshed could be avoided: and the suppression of the riot without any serious loss of life has caused the wave to pass under the ship without straining its timbers.

The Government was fully prepared for this emergency, physically and morally. The time that had elapsed since the assassination of Victor Noir, which led to these troubles, has been sufficient for the adoption of precautionary measures by quietly bringing more troops to the vicinity of Paris, and making such military dispositions as would enable the army to act with vigor and overwhelming efficiency, if an extreme emergency should arise. The feeling among the intelligent classes that the Government was irresistible against any immediate attempts at revolution has spared the necessity of a full exertion of its strength. In the proceedings against Rochefort, the care which it took to fortify itself legally and morally evinced solid wisdom. By introducing the subject in the Corps Legislatif, and inviting and tolerating full debate upon it in advance of the prosecution, the Government got an opportunity to explain its motives and answer objections to its proposed course in the face of the nation; and M. Ollivier did this with so much skill and success that he carried the assembly with him by an overwhelming majority—the numbers being 222 votes for and only 34 against the prosecution. This put it out of the power of the malcontents to assert, with any color of plausibility, that the Government was acting by arbitrary caprice or headlong resentment in the steps it was taking. The prosecution was sanctioned in advance by the great body of the elected re-presentatives of the people, and therefore seemed undertaken purely in the interest of order, and with the moral support of the nation. These precautions made the proceedings against Rochefort seem in ostensible harmony with the professed renunciation of personal and the substitution of representative government. They were rendered necessary by the fact that Rochefort was himself a deputy, and his offense an abuse of the freedom of the press-both being points on which the whole liberal part of the nation are extremely and justly sensitive. All this precautionary preparation was adroitly planned, and is justified by the result. The new Government has passed, without a serious shock, through an unexpected and most inopportune crisis.

If a necessity had arisen for wholesale slaughter to put down the rioters, there is no reason to doubt that the imperial troops would have been victorious; but the reform of the Government would have been arrested and turned back, and the new liberal tendencies destroyed in the germ. If the Emperor Napoleon were twenty years younger and in the full vigor of health, perhaps he would have gladly accepted such a result. But the Emperor is growing old, his health frail, the heir to his throne a child, the Empress without talents to govern strongly as a regent, and the stability of his dynasty is staked on the success of his tardy attempt to inaugurate representative government. He is acting under the coercion of circumstances; but the necessities of his position are a guarantee of his good faith in the recent change of system. Yet his interest in it is only personal, and he would withdraw every e would withdraw every only personal, concession and fall back upon the army as the sole instrument of authority, if he felt his throne tottering under him during his lifetime. He will not risk present power for the chance of perpetuating his dynasty after his decease. If, therefore, the recent riot had grown to more formidable proportions, it would have been unflinchingly put down at whatever cost, and followed by a sullen re-lapse into imperial absolutism. It is fortu-nate for the experiment that Paris was not thrown into one of those wild deliriums of violence to which its excitable population is

If it is a misfortune to the Emperor to have such an impetuous, hare-brained relative as Prince Pierre Bonaparte, whose murderous folly furnished the occasion for these disturbances, it has been, on the other hand, a great advantage that the leader who undertook to turn the occasion to account is such a despicable fomenter of sedition as Henri Rochefort. This uneasy miscreant has not a single title to respect. He has a vulgar, sinister face; a repulsive bearing; an upstart insolence of manner; no talent that fits him for any other trade than that of a libeller; no quality which can bind his associates to him by any other tie than a common taste for violence and rancor, or common hatred of the imperial family. The liberal statesmen of France scorn, despise, and shun him; they wash their hands of all affiliation or complicity with him, and would think themselves disgraced by consenting to follow him as a leader. The prudent moderation of M. Ollivier, supported as it was by the great body of the deputies, is set off to great advantage by contrast with such a vulgar demagogue and reckless, violent libeller as this miscreant Rochefort. As things look at this distance, the govern-

ment of M. Ollivier will not be weakened by the recent outbreak. It arose out of an occurrence which nobody could have so much regretted as the Goverment, and for which no other member of the Imperial family is responsible than the disesteemed perpetrator; and he was surrendered without hesitation, or any attempt at favoritism, to be dealt with according to the law. France has, no doubt, real grievances; but the assassination of Victor Noir by a bully who happens to belong to the Imperial family was not an occurrence which justified an attempted revolution. The sober public judgment of Paris could neither approve of the cause nor the methods of the revolutionists on this occasion; and as they did not succeed in provoking the Government into haste, violence, cruelty, or passion, but, on the contrary, led it to a display of wise moderation, combined with steady, unquailing firmness, and followed by prompt and almost bloodless success, the Imperial reforms will probably command as much confidence as if these untoward events had not

THE REPUBLICAN STORM WHICH IS

BREWING.

From the N. Y. Sun. Three events have just occurred in Washington which show how thoroughly the administration is demoralized, and how widely the Republicans in Congress are divided on important questions. We refer to the decision of the Suprementation of the Su on of the Supreme Court on the Legal-

ral Grant's nomination of Judge Strong and Mr. Bradley to fill the vacancies in that court, and the vote in the House on Mr. Marshall's resolutions against a protective tariff.

Of the seven judges who pronounced upon the Legal-tender act, five were appointed by Mr. Lincoln, and when they were elevated to the bench they were believed to be thorough Republicans, and fully in accord with that party on all the financial measures arising out of the war, prominent among which stood the act now called in question. But when this measure is brought to the bar of the court, two of these judges take one view of its fundamental and vital provisions, and three take another and totally different view. And we have no doubt that their discordant opinions reflect the sentiments which the Republicans entertain on the same subject.

They differ as widely as the five judges. The nomination by the President of Messrs. Strong and Bradley has brought out, and will probably yet develop in a more marked degree, the hostile feeling which exists between General Grant and the Senate. This hostility is largely due to the refusal of the Senate to unite with the House in the repeal of the Tenure-of-office act, a measure upon which General Grant had set his heart ere he took the Presidential oath. The Senate will seize every opportunity afforded by unfortunate nominations, like those of Messrs. Strong and Bradley, to prove to General Grant that they intend to keep the check upon him which the Tenure act has put in their hands. Of course, he will grow restive under this; but it will avail nothing, except to intensify the hostility between the Executive and the Senate.

Perhaps, however, the vote of the House on Mr. Marshall's resolutions brings more prominently into view the wide differences of opinion in the Republican ranks on the issues of the future than either of the other matters we have mentioned. The resolutions aimed a blow at the long-cherished tariff policy of the party. This is one of the main issues on which sanguine members of the party were relying to rally its forces, now that the great controversies growing out of the war are passing away. And yet on the question of tabling these resolutions, thirty Republicans from the West voted with forty-seven Democrats against this indirect and evasive mode of disposing of this vital matter; and among these thirty were such leading names as Allison, Judd, Lawrence, Julian, Benjamin, and Ingersoll, who doubtless truly reflect the opinions of the Western Republicans on the subject of protection. The resolutions were sent to the table by only twelve majority. If a direct vote could have been obtained, at least ten more Republicans would have taken side with the Democrats, and Mr. Marshall's resolutions in favor of a purely revenue tariff would have been adopted.

These gales are forerunners of the storm which is sure to shipwreek the Republican party ere the next Presidential election, unless it promptly drives from the helm the incompetent and inexperienced pilots who new undertake to direct its affairs.

SENSE IN CENSUS MAKING.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Upon the authority of the Congressional Committee on the Ninth Census, we are authorized to state that there is in existence a distinct account of a census ordained by the Emperor Yee of China in the year 2042. This census antedates that of Moses and the Israelites at the time of the exodus by half a dozen centuries probably. It is curious that these Chinese are found to have originated or discovered several centuries before anybody else the things which pertain to civilization. Printing, gunpowder, the magnetic needle, that the art of census-making has advanced somewhat. Statistics are now recognized as a science. China made the first census in 2042 B. C., and the United States made the best in 1860 A. D. But there are few things in the world that cannot be improved; and while Emperor Yee deserves credit for establishing the first census, Mr. Garfield deserves no less for a well-planned attempt to better the last and best. Mr. Garfield and the committee reported numerous and considerable objections to the present method of taking

the census. An unknown census taker calls on a family and spreads before them his array of blanks, which they see for the first time. They fear it is not all right that an unknown individual with a lot of legal looking blanks should poke all sorts of questions at them, and suspicion of his inquisitorial character must be allayed, fears that it is an assessment for purposes of taxation must be quieted, and the subject explained, and the memories of the families stimulated, before anything like the proper data can be ascertained. Under the present law the operations of the census are not sufficiently confidential, the citizen is not freed from the apprehension that his private affairs, the secrets of his family and business, will not be disclosed to his neighbors. The facts given by members of one family will be seen by all those whose record succeeds theirs on the same blank, and the returns at the central office are not properly guarded from observation. Inaccuracy and waste of time are the resultant of these objections. Too much time is allowed in taking and publishing the census. The main report of 1850 was not published till 1853, and the volume relating to manufactures not till 1859. The preliminary report of 1860 was printed in 1862; full reports on population and agriculture were delayed until 864; and those on manufactures and mortality till the end of 1866, when the reports were sadly out of date. For these and other defects in taking and issning the census Mr. Garfield's bill proposed reasonable remedies. Smaller districts should be instituted, the present Congressional districts being the most convenient, probably, and small enough for any man to intelligently arrange the work therein, and put its carrying out into the hands of intelligent men chosen for their especial fitness for the work. Separate schedules for the various topics of inquiry should be distributed before the visit of the census officer, and by this means it was believed that much greater correctness would be attained in the reports, and that the time required for the enumeration might be

reduced to one month. But Mr. Garfield's bill proposed not only to remedy certain defects in the taking and publishing of the census, but also a thorough revision of the present schedules of inquiry. That which had exclusive reference to slaves can now happily be dropped; that to color should include distinctively the Chinese, who certainly deserve such recognition, if for no other reason than that of having been the first census takers. Inquiries as to the education of children were to be advantageously increased. In accordance with the earnest desire of Dr. Jarvis, the branch of vital statistics was deservedly to receive more attention. The importance of inquiries as to

tender act, the feeling in the Senate on Gouepublic health, and the prevalence of diseases,
ral Grant's nomination of Judge Strong and is certainly as great as that of any
Mr. Bradley to fill the vacancies in that court, other topic. The old schedule of agcumstances. The colony is to protect itself somewhat burdensome. is certainly as great as that of any other topic. The old schedule of ag-riculture, which contained 246 columns of inquiries, was carefully compressed into less than eighty in the new, and with the cutting out of old lumber, and the introduction of new and pertinent features, the committee considered that a great improvement had been effected. The deficiencies of the old, though so much larger than the new schedule, are indicated in the addition of inquiries as to the value of farm buildings other than dwelling houses, the average number of cows milked during the year, and the value of poultry and its products on the farm. Indus-trial statistics and those of internal commerce were thoroughly revised. It is an almost incredible fact that what may be termed extractive industry, including the products of our mines, our fisheries, and the petroleum interest, has hitherto been wholly neglected in the census. Fuller statistics in regard to railroads were provided for, and the business of life insurance, which since the year 1860 has grown from comparatively nothing to its present proportions, insuring the enormous amount of nearly \$2,000, 000,000, was to be statistically investigated. In the language of the committee, "Whether these companies are sound or not, whether the people may rely upon the safe investment of the money which they have put into their hands, will altogether depend upon the way in which they are conducting their business; and we propose by this bill te bring out the facts so that the country may see what are the operations of these great corporations"

Under the head of Social Statistics, the

committee told us that certain inquiries proved practically worthless. They omitted or reclassified them. In short, they found enough to do in the way of improvement to justify the expectation of a better census for the year 1870 than that of ten years ago. The House of Representatives did its duty well by the Census bill, making it before the recess subject of daily consideration. But since its passage to the Senate it has not secured the attention it deserves. The general features of the bill had our hearty approval. The zeal and labor bestowed upon it by General Garfield and his committee were worthy of commendation, and so good a measure as they had produced deserved at the hands of the Senate careful consideration and some amendment, but not the cavalier treatment it has received. It was on Tuesday defeated, and, as we fear, hopelessly.

THE COLONIES AND THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

From the Pall Mall Gazette, For the moment, Colonial affairs, after a long step into the foreground, are thrust back again. But it is obvious that the relations of the mother country and the colonies are soon to form what is called a question; and therefore we venture the contribution of a few hints on the subject. Very much the best suggestion ever made about it is contained in a pamphlet published several years ago by Mr. Henry Thring, which attracted at the time hardly any of the notice which its conspicuous merit deserved. Mr. Thring is one of the most intelligent and influential of our legislators, though fortunately, both for the country and for himself, he has no seat in Parliament, and never will have one. Of course no one man makes any important law, but the person who draws up and puts into distinct and categorical shape the views of the Cabinet, which are often very general and more or less crude, has more to do with legislation practically than any other individual man. events, what he says is entitled to the utmost respect and attention, and nothing which bears his name can safely be disregarded as and innumerable inventions in the arts, must impracticable or visionary. Let us see, then, be placed to their credit, and now we seem to what Mr. Thring has to say on this great find them the first census makers. Since the topic. The pamphlet to which we refer is time of the Emperor Yee, it is to be supposed | called "Suggestions on Colonial Reform." It was published by Messrs. Stevens and Haynes, and its preface is dated January 11, 1865. We earnestly recommend it to all persons interested in the subject. Mr. Thring's great point is that whereas the colonies and the mother country may be reciprocally of the greatest use to each other, and whereas it is necessary in order that they may be of use that their mutual obligations and the character of their relations to each other should be definitely understood and clearly settled, it would be well to pass an act to define them. Such a definition as Mr. Thring points out would remove numerous future possibilities of quarrel, as to which he well remarks;-More than half the heartburnings and bickerings in the world arise from the absence of a settled rule of conduct to meet a possible contingency, from the impossibility of parting without the pride of the one party being hurt, or the dignity of the other offended. Mr. Thring embodied the scheme by which he proposed to effect this object in a draft bill, which forms an appendix to his pamphlet, and on the provisions of which we will proceed to make some remarks. Its fun-damental principle is as novel as it is just. It is simply this: that the connection between the mother country and the colony ought to be regarded as an advantage to both parties, but in particular to the colony; and that, on the one hand, the colony should, if it pleased, have a right, recognized by statute, to withdraw from the connection; while, on the other hand, the mother country should have a right, if the colony misbehaved itself, to punish such misbehavior by expulsion. As things stand at present there is a feeling—a diminishing feeling, no doubt, but still a feeling—that by proclaiming its independence a colony would, as it were, punish the mother country for any misconduct on its part, and that the power to do so constitutes a hold over the pride of the United Kingdom which puts it to a certain extent at the mercy of its dependencies. Mr. Thring justly points out that this is quite a mistake; that in most cases such conduct would amount to cutting off your nose to spite your face, and that if expulsion were regarded as a punishment (which it really would be), union would he regarded as a pri

vilege, which it really is. The scheme of the bill by which Mr. Thring hoped to accomplish these objects was as follows:—The first part related to the formation of new colonies; the second to the constitutions to be provided for those which as yet have no constitution; the third to a division between imperial and local power, and the fourth to the proceedings by which colonies might, if they wished it, obtain independence, or, if they incurred such a penalty, be visited by expulsion. Of these parts the third and fourth are by far the most interesting and important. The third, which draws the line between local and imperial powers is justly described by Mr. Thring as the keystone of his scheme. It reserves to the Crown the right of declaring war, and all rights incident thereto; as, for example, that of establishing prize courts, earrying on diplomatic relations with foreign countries, and the like; and it declares that in the event of foreign war the United Kingdom will protect the colony, if the the colony will render for its own defense

against internal commotions and native tribes; and if it requires assistance in doing so from the United Kingdom, conditions may be imposed in respect of such assistance. The right to legislate upon various other subjects affecting the empire at large, such as naturalization, etc., is reserved to the crown, and the powers of the local legislatures are defined, and in some respects extended. As to independence, the colony is to have a right to petition for it through its legislature, and such petition may be granted by the Crown. On the other hand, the Crown may by proclamation force independence on the colony if it fails to fulfil its obligations.

Such is the general outline of Mr. Thring's scheme, and as far as it goes it appears to us admirable. It is of the last importance to put the relations between the different parts of the empire on a solid and genuine basis, and to substitute, as far as possible, sentiment based upon and limited by reason for a con-geries of sentiments which are very far from being either reasonable or harmonious. It may, indeed, be said that the scheme

tends rather to facilitate the disruption of the empire than to consolidate it, inasmuch as it provides a means by which that could be legalized which the law as it stands would describe as high treason. Such a criticism, we think, would be unjust. Every one knows perfectly well that no earthly consideration would induce this country in the present day to embark upon another American war. If Canada or Australia proclaimed her independence, she would not have to fight for it. Surely it is better to recognize by law that which already exists in fact, and to make arrangements now, when no one's pride can be hurt by making them, the want of which hereafter might lead to the alternative between national humiliation and civil war. We are, however, of opinion that there is a defect in the scheme which ought to be supplied before it would operate to bind the different members of the emtogether pire. For this purpose there will be required not only a clear definition of existing powers, but the creation of a machinery which does not at present exist for investigating the common wants and giving expression to the com-

mon feelings of the empire. It would, of course, be difficult to frame such a system, but we do not think the difficulty would be insuperable. The main difficulty of such schemes arises from the fact that those who frame them always aim at providing a common legislation for the whole empire; and beyond all doubt it is exceedingly difficult, not to say impossible, to deal with all the questions which would be raised by such an undertaking. We do not see, for instance, how the points raised by Burke in his speeches as to the quarrel with America could be disposed of in these days more satisfactorily than in his. Surely, however, we ought not to forget that in the eye of the world in which we live counsel is at least as important as law: and though it would be exceedingly difficult to establish a common Legislature by which all the affairs of the empire nright be governed, it would be easy to devise an Imperial Council in which the different leg slatures might be represented, and by which they might be advised. Suppose that the legislature of every colony were empowered to elect a certain number of representatives who should come to England, and there sit as Privy Councillors in company with an equal number of English Privy Councillors, pub licly discuss different schemes by which different sections of the empire might be of use to the whole, and approve of drafts of bills by which in their opinion Parliament on the one hand, and the different local legislatures on the other, might carry out the objects in view; would not their recommendations have every chance of being accepted? They would, of course, have no legal until they had been accepted and acted upon by the local legislature; but if recommended by such a body they would be sure at all events to be discussed, and it is eminently probable that they would be carried. If the British Empire is to exist at all, it must exist by the free consent and by the hearty co-operation of the parties concerued. We must assume good faith and loyalty, for if they do not exist the whole fabric must, and most assuredly will, fall to pieces sooner or later. But if we should make that fundamental assumption, it must surely be regarded as eminently likely that such a body as the one which we have suggested would make wise suggestions, and that those suggestions would be adopted by the parties concerned. Nearly all the disputes which have at any time arisen between the colonies and the mother country have been more or less the result of mutual ignorance, and might have been avoided by the existence of any body which would really represent the views and interests of both parties. Informally the colonies have often had representatives in England. Mr. Roebuck, if we are not mistaken, acted at one time as agent for Canada, and within the last few years this country has been repeatedly visited by gentlemen who, without any definite official position, did nevertheless act and were received as being in a very real sense indeed the representatives of Canadian opinion. But if, instead of coming merely as private persons, and being received by the Secretary of State or by members of Parliament on the footing of private friends, they had come as the public accredited representatives of their colony, with suitable dignity and proper official salaries, if they had met with other representatives of other colonies in an assembly like the House of Lords or the Prive Council, there to explain the views of their constituents, and to discuss the measures which by the united weight of the whole empire should be submitted to the legislatures of its different parts, their position would have been far more dignified, and the results of their visit very much more beneficial. The mere fact that such an institution would give to the leading men of all the colonies high object of ambition, and a strong personal interest in the prosperity of the empire at large, would be a great recommendation to it.

MR. GLADSTONE'S OPPORTUNITY.

From the N. Y. Times. If any one wishes to appreciate the progress of liberal ideas in England, it is only necessary to read the Queen's speech on the opening of Parliament last Tuesday. The ballot is half promised, the land laws in Ireland are to be completely modified, there is to be a bill for the enlargement of the means of national education, the religious tests in Universities are to be abolished, new rating laws are to be introduced, and there is foreshadowed the beginning of those measures for the reform of the land system in England which the rich have long dreaded, and the poor long prayed for. This is a comprehensive programme for a ministry to announce through the mouth of the monarch. Times have changed since men were transported for fourteen years for during to recommend Par-

The most significant circumstance in connection with this advance of opinion and principles is that radical measures are proffered not by the representative of a minority in the nation, but by the most powerful minister who has directed the affairs of Engbankruptcy, insolvency, laws as to copyright, | land since the days of litt. We doubt indeed, whether Pitt was ever actually so strong as Mr. Gladstone is at this moment. Pitt played a desperate game, and was always liable to suffer the penalty of failure. But Mr. Gladstone is asked to do nothing more than carry out certain internal reforms which he has eagerly advocated for years past. When a man's heart is set upon a great work, and the power to accomplish that work is suddenly indeed in his hands, we have a right to look for great results. Mr. Gladstone is absolutely master at the present time of the destinies of England. He has an enormous majority in the House of Commons at his back. The vast bulk of the people are cheering him on. The opposition party is weak and disorganized. Even Mr. Disraeli's genius can do nothing for the Conservatives. The day has gone by when the Prime Minister was little more than puppet in the hands of the sovereign. Mr. Gladstone has more power than the Queen, and it is difficult to say what measure he could not pass through Parliament if he chose to bring all his strength to bear upon it. He occupies the grandest position which any man of his country has been able to boast of since Parliamentary government was known.

A liberal programme—a "truly liberal" programme—is therefore no more than all the world had a right to look for from his hands. He has dwelt much upon the wrongs of Ireland: in a certain sense, it may be said that he has made much political capital out of them. Now it is within his power to redress those wrongs. But his hand must not pause there. In England he will find want more widely spread, and discontent more deeply seated, than at any period within the term of his own life. By a strange oversight this subject was not even alluded to in the speech prepared for the Queen. It cannot be so gnored in Parliament. The abolition of "religious tests" will not put bread in the mouths of the hungry. It may be a task of great difficulty to provide a remedy for the hardships under which the English laboring classes at present smart. But we have been taught to believe that Mr. Gladstone is a very great man, and the people have put unlimited power in his hands in order that he may settle difficulties which weaker ministries could not attack. The cries of the distressed operatives and mechanics of England reacq to every part of the world. We seem to hear them in this country night and day. It might inspire any statesman to perform noble and memorable deeds to see these thousands of helpless men before him, with the knowledge that he had the power to raise them out of their misery if only he could find out the way. To that problem Mr. Glad-stone must address himself, if he would save the credit of his name, and retain the position which was conferred upon him amid the acclamations of the people.

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Streets, Philadelphia. The Annual Plection for Directors will be held on MONDAY, the 7th day of Merch, 1870, at the Office of the Company, No. 238 S. THIRD Street, 1 25 3w JOSEPH I JOSEPH LEBLEY, Secretary.

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ROAD CO., Office, No. 227 S. FOURTH Street. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22, 1899. DIVIDEND NOTICE. The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on FRIDAY, the Mat instant, and reopened on TUKSDAY

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